

## Nuclear Regulatory Commission

## § 7.17

site, <http://www.nrc.gov>; and/or at the NRC Public Document Room.

[64 FR 48950, Sept. 9, 1999]

### § 7.15 Procedures for closing an NRC advisory committee meeting.

(a) To close all or part of a meeting of an NRC advisory committee, the committee shall submit a written request for closure to the Chairman of the Commission, citing specific matter listed in the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), as implemented by 10 CFR 9.104, to justify the closure. The request shall provide the Chairman sufficient time for review in order to make a determination prior to publication of the meeting notice pursuant to § 7.12.

(b) The General Counsel shall review all requests to close meetings of NRC advisory committees.

(c) If the Chairman of the Commission agrees that the request is consistent with the policies of this part, a determination shall be issued in writing that all or part of the meeting will be closed. The determination shall include a statement of the reasons for the closing.

(d) Except when the President or his designee determines in writing that no notice should be published for reasons of national security, the Chairman of the Commission shall make a copy of the determination to close all or part of an NRC advisory committee meeting available to the public upon request, and shall state the reasons why all or part of the meeting is closed, citing the specific matter listed in the Government in the Sunshine Act (as implemented by 10 CFR 9.104) in the meeting notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER pursuant to § 7.12.

(e) The Chairman of the Commission may delegate the Chairman's functions under paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section to such officer of the Commission as the Chairman considers appropriate. The General Counsel shall review any determination to close a meeting made by a delegate.

### § 7.16 Annual comprehensive review.

(a) The Chairman of the Commission shall conduct an annual comprehensive review of the activities and responsibilities

of each NRC advisory committee to determine whether the committee—

(1) Is carrying out its purposes or, consistent with the provisions of applicable statutes, its responsibilities should be revised.

(2) Should be merged with another advisory committee.

(3) Should be terminated.

(b) The comprehensive review required by paragraph (a) of this section shall include consideration of such information regarding the committee as is required for the Commission's annual report to the GSA Secretariat pursuant to § 7.27(a) and such other information as may be requested from the Committee by the NRC Advisory Committee Management Officer. The results of such review shall be included in the annual report to the GSA Secretariat.

(c) If, as a result of the review required by this section, the Commission determines that an advisory committee is no longer needed, the committee shall be terminated; except that in the case of an advisory committee established by an Act of Congress or the President, the committee's termination shall be recommended to the President or the Congress, as the case may be.

### § 7.17 Reports required for advisory committees.

(a) The Commission shall furnish a report on the activities of NRC advisory committees annually to the Administrator and the GSA Secretariat on a fiscal year basis. The report must contain information regarding NRC advisory committees required by Section 6(c) of the Act for the President's annual report to the Congress and be consistent with instructions provided by the GSA Secretariat. A copy of the report is made available at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>, and/or at the NRC Public Document Room.

(b) Any NRC advisory committee holding closed meetings shall issue a report, at least annually, setting forth a summary of its activities consistent with the policy of the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b), as implemented by 10 CFR 9.104. A copy of the report is made available at the

NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov>, and/or at the NRC Public Document Room.

(c) Subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and NRC's Freedom of Information Act Regulations (10 CFR part 9, subpart A), eight copies of each report made by an advisory committee, including any report on closed meetings pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, and, where appropriate, background papers prepared by consultants, shall be filed for public inspection and use with the Library of Congress, Exchange and Gift Division, Federal Documents Section, Federal Advisory Committee Desk, Washington, DC 20540.

[54 FR 26948, June 27, 1989, as amended at 64 FR 48950, Sept. 9, 1999]

**§ 7.18 Compensation and expense reimbursement of advisory committee members, staffs, and consultants.**

(a) Except where otherwise provided by law, the Commission may accept the gratuitous services of an NRC advisory committee member, staff member, or consultant who agrees in advance to serve without compensation.

(b)(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (b)(2) of this section, if the Commission determines that compensation of a member of an NRC advisory committee is appropriate, the amount that will be paid shall be fixed by the Chairman of the Commission at a rate that is the daily equivalent of a rate of NRC's General Salary Schedule, unless the member is appointed as a consultant and compensated at a rate applicable to NRC consultants. (See NRC Manual for NRC's General Salary Schedule and rates applicable to NRC consultants.)

(2) In determining an appropriate rate of pay for a member of an NRC advisory committee, the Chairman of the Commission shall give consideration to the significance, scope, and technical complexity of the matters with which the advisory committee is concerned and the qualifications required of the committee member; provided that the Chairman may not set the rate of pay for an NRC advisory committee member higher than the daily equivalent of the maximum rate for a GG-15 under NRC's General Salary Schedule, unless a higher rate is mandated by statute or

the Commission itself has determined that a higher rate is justified and necessary. The Commission may not delegate the responsibility for making a determination that such a higher rate of pay is necessary and justified for an NRC advisory committee member, and such a determination must be reviewed annually.

(3) An advisory committee member may not be paid at a rate higher than the daily equivalent of the maximum rate for a GG-18 under NRC's General Salary Schedule.

(c)(1) Each NRC advisory committee staff member may be paid at a rate that is the daily equivalent of a rate of NRC's General Salary Schedule in which the staff member's position would appropriately be placed.

(2) A staff member of an NRC advisory committee may not be paid at a rate higher than the daily equivalent of the maximum rate for a GG-15 under NRC's General Salary Schedule, unless the Chairman of the Commission determines that the staff member's position would appropriately be placed at a grade higher than GG-15; provided that in establishing rates of compensation, the Chairman shall comply with any applicable statutes, regulations, Executive Orders, and administrative guidelines.

(3) A determination to set the rate of pay of a staff position at a grade higher than GG-15 under the NRC's General Salary Schedule rate of pay shall be reviewed annually by the Chairman of the Commission.

(4) A Federal employee may serve as a staff member of an NRC advisory committee only with the knowledge of the Designated Federal Officer for the committee and the approval of the employee's direct supervisor. A staff member who is not otherwise a Federal employee shall be appointed in accordance with applicable agency procedures, following consultation with the advisory committee.

(d) The following factors shall be considered in determining an appropriate rate of pay for a consultant to an NRC advisory committee:

(1) The qualifications required of the consultant, and